

for forestry purposes. Most of the provincial forest services and many timber-owning companies are also making extensive use of aerial photographs. It is now possible not only to map the areas occupied by the different forest types but to estimate the volume of standing timber with an accuracy that compares favourably with ground surveys. Aerial photographs drawn to scales suitable for mapping purposes and covering about 1,000,000 sq. miles are now available in the National Air-Photographic Library of the Department of National Defence, and about 123,000 sq. miles of forest have been mapped and classified from the photographs. Still greater use of air photographs for forestry purposes is expected in future.

Research Work in Forestry.—In a special article on Scientific and Industrial Research in Canada, which appears at pp. 979-1012 of the 1940 Year Book, a comprehensive review of all phases of scientific research work being undertaken by the various Government Departments is given. Specifically at pp. 993-995, research in forest economics, silviculture, forest-fire protection and forest products is covered.

Forestry and FAO.—In October, 1944, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations was formally established and held its first conference at Quebec. The functions of the Organization generally, and as they concern agriculture particularly, are given at pp. 206-211. The relation of FAO to fisheries is outlined at pp. 291-294. The Canadian delegation included five representatives of forestry, headed by the Dominion Forester. The Conference decided that the Organization should include a Division on Forestry and Forest Products, because the promotion of human welfare requires provision of shelter and warmth as well as sufficient and suitable food. Furthermore, it was recognized that forestry and agriculture are alternative forms of land use and, in many cases, the two activities are complementary.

In many regions, the permanent success of agriculture itself depends on the maintenance of a satisfactory proportion of forest cover, in the form of farm woodlots or small community forests. The disastrous effects of complete removal of forest cover on ground water levels and on the stability of the soil are amply demonstrated in certain sections of Canada.

It is recognized that the very low standards of living now prevalent in many parts of the world cannot be substantially improved unless larger supplies of forest products can be made available. Wood is needed for the construction of better housing, granaries, and improved accommodation for live stock. Improved standards of living require improvements in education and in the dissemination of news, for which purposes paper manufactured from wood-pulp is essential. Wood cellulose has become one of the chief sources of textiles; consequently, the forests are assuming new importance in connection with the clothing of the peoples of the world.

At present there are great differences in per capita consumption of wood as between different regions. To some degree these differences arise from climatic factors because the needs for shelter and heating are much greater in cold countries than in the tropics. It remains true, however, that very large populations are unable to obtain sufficient wood because supplies are not available. With certain limitations, it is believed possible to establish minimum standards of wood consumption which are essential to a reasonable minimum standard of living in the different regions of the world, and it is expected that FAO will take the lead in the establishment of such basic requirements.